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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/068,414	02/06/2002	Shuhuji Fujii	56939 (70904)	3017

21874 7590 07/31/2007
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EXAMINER

MENBERU, BENIYAM

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2625

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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07/31/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/068,414	Applicant(s) FUJII ET AL.	
	Examiner Beniyam Menberu	Art Unit 2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 July 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-9, 11-16 and 18-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-9, 11-16, and 18-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn.
2. Applicant's arguments, see Remarks, filed July 6, 2007, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-3, 5-9, 11-16, and 18-20 under U.S. Patent No. 5488483 to Murayama in view of U.S. Patent No. 6195428 to Maruyama have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of U.S. Patent No. 6614551 to Peek.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-16, and 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5488483 to Murayama in view of U.S. Patent No. 6614551 to Peek.

Regarding claim 1, Murayama disclose an image sending method comprising the steps of:

selecting and setting a sending mode for sending image data from plural types of sending modes (column 5, lines 43-67; column 6, lines 1-22; Figure 6, step s23), the plural types of sending modes respectively relating to different transmission protocols (column 5, lines 38-42; column 5, lines 54-57, lines 63-65; column 6, lines 29-31, lines 49-52);

setting an image quality for the image data to be sent (Figure 6, s24, s29; column 5, lines 44-46, 51-53; column 6, lines 10-15, 32-35, 40-44, 61-65);

selecting and setting a resolution corresponding to the selected image quality from range of applicable resolutions for the selected sending mode (In Figure 6, selecting the G4 mode in s23 results in two possible resolution (in step s25 and s27) depending on the quality selection in step s24 (column 5, lines 44-46, 51-53; column 6, lines 10-15, 32-35, 40-44, 61-65); selecting the color mode results in different resolution selection depending on quality selection in s29 (column 6, lines 7-44; column 4, lines 15-55));

and

sending the image data of the selected resolution by the selected sending mode (column 5, lines 54-57; column 6, lines 15-22). However Murayama does not disclose wherein the sending mode for sending image data is selected and set from the plural types of sending modes based on sending destination information which is inputted or selected by a user;

Peek discloses wherein the sending mode for sending image data is selected and set from the plural types of sending modes based on sending destination information which is inputted or selected by a user (column 6, lines 1-37).

Murayama and Peek are combinable because they are in the similar problem area of image transmission.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the inputting method of Peek with the image communication system of Murayama to implement sending mode selection based on user input.

The motivation to combine the reference is clear because the user can easily send images through different sending modes just by entering the destination data.

Regarding claim 2, Murayama in view of Peek teach all the limitations of claim 1. Further Murayama disclose the image sending method set forth in Claim 1, wherein: the resolution corresponding to the selected image quality is selected and set by referring to a resolution setting table which indicates correspondence between

- i) an index which is a single or plural indices of the image quality common to the plural types of sending modes and
- ii) a range of applicable resolutions of each sending mode (column 4, lines 12-55; "standard" "precision" setting and "G4" column 5, lines 59-60, column 6, lines 8-10; G4/Color mode).

Regarding claim 3, Murayama in view of Peek disclose the image sending method set forth in Claim 2, wherein:

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the image quality of the image data to be sent is set according to the index which is selected by a user from a plurality of displayed indices (Figure 2, reference 42; column 3, lines 38-44).

Regarding claim 5, Murayama in view of Peek teaches all the limitations of claim

1. Further Murayama disclose the image sending method set forth in Claim 1, wherein: the image data is processed to match the selected resolution (column 5, lines 43-57).

Regarding claim 7, Murayama disclose an image sending device comprising:

sending mode setting means for selecting and setting a sending mode for sending image data from plural types of sending modes (column 5, lines 43-67; column 6, lines 1-22; Figure 6, step s23), the plural types of sending modes respectively relating to different transmission protocols(column 5, lines 38-42; column 5, lines 54-57, lines 63-65; column 6, lines 29-31, lines 49-52);

image quality setting means for setting an image quality for the image data to be sent (Figure 6, s24, s29; column 5, lines 44-46, 51-53; column 6, lines 10-15, 32-35, 40-44, 61-65); and

resolution setting means for selecting and setting a resolution corresponding to the image quality set by said image quality setting means, from a range of applicable resolutions for the sending mode set by said sending mode setting means (In Figure 6, selecting the G4 mode in s23 results in two possible resolution (in step s25 and s27) depending on the quality selection in step s24 (column 5, lines 44-46, 51-53; column 6, lines 10-15, 32-35, 40-44, 61-65); selecting the color mode results in different resolution selection depending on quality selection in s29 (column 6, lines 7-44; column 4, lines

15-55)). However Murayama does not disclose input means for enabling a user to input or select sending destination information and wherein said sending mode setting means selects and sets the sending mode based on the sending destination information inputted or selected through the input means.

Peek discloses input means for enabling a user to input or select sending destination information and wherein said sending mode setting means selects and sets the sending mode based on the sending destination information inputted or selected through the input means (column 3, lines 36-46; column 5, lines 22-33; column 6, lines 29-44).

Murayama and Peek are combinable because they are in the similar problem area of image transmission.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the inputting method of Peek with the image communication system of Murayama to implement sending mode selection based on user input.

The motivation to combine the reference is clear because Peek teaches that the system is convenient and saves time in operating a communication device (column 2, lines 12-15, lines 33-53).

Regarding claim 8, Murayama in view of Peek teach all the limitations of claim 7. Further Murayama disclose the image sending device set forth in Claim 7 wherein : said resolution setting means refers to a resolution setting table which stores a range of applicable resolutions of each sending mode, with a corresponding index which is a single or plural indices of the image quality common to the plural types sending modes

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(column 4, lines 12-55; "standard" "precision" setting and "G4" column 5, lines 59-60, column 6, lines 8-10; G4/Color mode; "standard" and "precision" is available for both sending mode G4/Color).

Regarding claim 6, Murayama in view of Peek teaches all the limitations of claim 1. Murayama discloses the image sending method set forth Claim 1, wherein: the image data is created by reading an image, so as to match selected resolution (column 2, lines 63-67; column 5, lines 43-49).

Regarding claim 12, Murayama in view of Peek teach all the limitations of claim 7. Murayama discloses the image sending device set forth in Claim 7, further comprising:
image reading means for reading an image based on the resolution set by the resolution setting means, so as to create image data (column 2, lines 63-67; column 5, lines 43-49).

Regarding claim 9, Murayama in view of Peek teach all the limitations of claim 8. Further Murayama disclose the image sending device set forth in Claim 8, further comprising:
display means for displaying the plural indices (column 3, lines 38-44; Figure 2, 42a, 42b); and
input means for enabling a user to input one of the plural indices (column 3, lines 38-44),
wherein:

said image quality setting means sets the image quality according to the index which is inputted by the input means (column 5, lines 44-50).

Regarding claim 11, Murayama in view of Peek teaches all the limitations of claim 7. Further Murayama discloses the image sending device set forth in Claim 7 further comprising:

image data processing means for processing the image data based on the resolution set by said resolution setting means, into a form suitable for the sending mode set by said sending mode setting means (column 5, lines 44-50, column 6, lines 25-31).

Regarding claim 13, Murayama disclose an image sending device comprising: sending route setting section for selecting and setting a sending route from plural image sending routes (column 5, lines 35-67; column 6, lines 1-22; Figure 6, step s23); an image quality setting section for setting an image quality of sending image (Figure 6, s24, s29; column 5, lines 44-46, 51-53; column 6, lines 10-15, 32-35, 40-44, 61-65); processing contents setting section for setting processing contents which corresponds to the image sending route set by said sending route setting section and the image quality set by said image quality setting section (column 5, lines 43-67); an image processing section for processing the image to create the sending image based on the processing contents set by said processing contents setting section (column 2, lines 64-67; column 3, lines 1-9); and an image sending section for sending the sending image via the image sending route set by said sending route setting section (column 3, lines 10-14; column 5, lines 43-50; column 8-22). However Murayama does not disclose sending destination input section

for enabling a user to input or select sending destination information and wherein said sending route setting section selects and sets the sending route from the plural image sending routes based on the sending destination information inputted or selected through the sending destination input section.

Peek discloses sending destination input section for enabling a user to input or select sending destination information and wherein said sending route setting section selects and sets the sending route from the plural image sending routes based on the sending destination information inputted or selected through the sending destination input section (column 3, lines 36-46; column 5, lines 22-33; column 6, lines 29-44).

Murayama and Peek are combinable because they are in the similar problem area of image transmission.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the inputting method of Peek with the image communication system of Murayama to implement sending mode selection based on user input.

The motivation to combine the reference is clear because Peek teaches that the system is convenient and saves time in operating a communication device (column 2, lines 12-15, lines 33-53).

Regarding claim 14, Murayama in view of Peek teaches all the limitations of claim 13. Further Murayama discloses the image sending device set forth in Claim 13, wherein: the image quality set by said image quality setting section is commonly used for the plural image sending routes (Figure 6, in s24 for G4 mode and in s29 for color mode, they both have selection for "standard" and "precision").

Regarding claim 15, Murayama in view of Peek teaches all the limitations of claim 14. Further Murayama discloses the image sending device set forth in Claim 14, further comprising:

a storage section for storing a processing contents setting table which stores processing contents corresponding to each of the plural image sending routes and the image quality (column 4, lines 3-42).

Regarding claim 16, Murayama in view of Peek teaches all the limitations of claim 15. Further Murayama disclose the image sending device set forth in Claim 15, further comprising:

a display section for displaying the image quality which exists as plural image qualities (column 3, lines 38-44; Figure 2, 42a, 42b); and

an input section for enabling a user to input one of the plural image qualities (column 3, lines 38-44),

wherein:

said image quality setting section selects and sets the image quality inputted through the input section (column 5, lines 44-50).

Regarding claim 18, Murayama in view of Peek teaches all the limitations of claim 1. Further Murayama discloses the image sending method set forth in claim 1, wherein the plural types of sending modes include at least one of a facsimile mode, a

scan to email mode, and a scan to FTP mode (column 2, lines 52-55).

Regarding claim 19, Murayama in view of Peek teaches all the limitations of claim 7. Further Murayama discloses the image sending device set forth in claim 7, wherein the plural types of sending modes include at least one of a facsimile mode, a scan to email mode, and a scan to FTP mode (column 2, lines 52-55).

Regarding claim 20, Murayama in view of Peek teaches all the limitations of claim 13. Further Murayama discloses the image sending device set forth in claim 13, wherein the plural image sending routes include at least one of a telephone line, the Internet, an intranet, an extranet, CON, COM, LAN, ISDN, VAN, CATV, VPN, a telephone line network, a mobile network, and a satellite network (column 4, lines 61-64).

Other Prior Art Cited

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2004/0061805 A1 to Shibamiya et al disclose image communication system.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Beniyam Menberu whose telephone number is (571) 272-7465. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM-4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Aung Moe can be reached on (571) 272-7314. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **571-273-8300**.

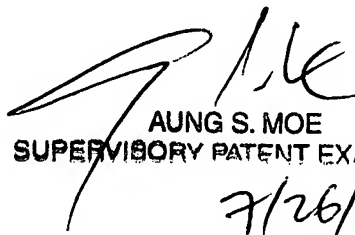
Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the customer service office whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600. The group receptionist number for TC 2600 is (571) 272-2600.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

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Patent Examiner

Beniyam Menberu
BM
07/26/2007


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7/26/07